IN THE CLAIMS

Please consider the claims as follows:

1.   (currently amended) A method for monitoring usage of resources allocated to [[in]] a plurality of nodes of a network, elements each capable of communicating with a centralized management station, comprising the steps of:

(a) computing assigning to a node each of the elements, a parameter localized value indicative of the usage, in said element, of said resources; , and, responsive to said localized value, communicating a message to said central station; and

(b) reporting to a management station of the network when the usage exceeds a predetermined threshold; and

(c) initiating a poll of resources responsive to receipt or absence of receipt of said message in said centralized management station, obtaining information from of at least one other node from the plurality of nodes when said threshold is exceeded. another one of said elements indicative of the usage of said resources in said other element.

2-3.   (cancelled)

4.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said localized value parameter is indicative of typical the present usage of the resources in the node. by said elements and said computing step includes comparing said localized value to a fixed threshold value.

5.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said localized value parameter is indicative of [[the]] a rate of change of usage of the resources in the node. by said elements and said computing step includes comparing said localized value to a fixed threshold value.

6.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further including the step of responsive to the results of said polling, adjusting the usage [[use]] of the resources at

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one or more of said nodes ~~elements~~.

7.   (currently amended) A method for monitoring usage of a resource ~~resources~~ in nodes of ~~elements in~~ a network, comprising the steps of:

(a) ~~In each of the elements, (a)~~ monitoring [[the]] usage of ~~resources in said element~~ the resource in a node to determine ~~if resource~~ when the usage exceeds a predetermined threshold;~~, and~~

(b) reporting to a management station of the network when [[if]] the usage exceeds said threshold,~~ sending a message to a central monitoring element~~; and

(c) initiating a poll of resources in the nodes when said threshold is exceeded in at least one node ~~in said central monitoring element, responsive to receipt of said message from any of said elements, polling remaining ones of said elements to determine the actual use of resources in said elements~~.

8.   (currently amended) A method for monitoring usage of resources in nodes of a network, ~~a plurality of elements each capable of communicating with a centralized management station,~~ comprising the steps of:

asynchronous reporting to a management station of the network of an event ~~events~~ when ~~the resource~~ usage of at least one resource of said resources in any of said nodes ~~elements~~ deviates from a prescribed norm;[[,]] and

[[a]] periodic polling of said nodes ~~network elements~~ in response to [[an]] said event ~~generated in said asynchronous reporting step~~.

9.   (currently amended) A technique for managing a global resource of a network ~~elements~~ in order to reduce the amount of monitoring related traffic, comprising the steps of:

partitioning [[a]] the global resource into a plurality of node resources, wherein each node resource is assigned to a separate node of the network; ~~nodes,~~

assigning a ~~fixed resource~~ budget to each said node resource; ~~of the nodes,~~

reporting to a management station of the network when a node ~~any of the nodes~~

exceeds [[its]] the assigned budget as determined using, based upon local monitoring of the node resource; and, triggering a report in the node by sending a message to a central manager, and

initiating responsive to receipt of said message in said central manager, issuing a global poll of node resource usage by all of the nodes in said of the network when the assigned budget is exceeded in at least one node.

10.   (currently amended) A technique for managing a global resource of a network elements in order to reduce the amount of monitoring related traffic, comprising the steps of:

partitioning [[a]] the global resource into a plurality of node resources, wherein each node resource is assigned to a separate node of the network; nodes,

assigning to the node a rate of usage of the node resource; budget to each of the nodes; indicative of the maximum rate at which the usage of resources is permitted to change,

reporting to a management station of the network when said rate exceeds a pre-determined threshold as determined using local monitoring of the node resource; and of change at which any of the nodes uses its resources exceeds its budget, based upon local monitoring at that node, triggering a report in the node by sending a message to a central manager, and

initiating responsive to receipt of said message in said central manager, issuing a global poll of the node resource usage by all of the nodes in said of the network when said rate is exceeded in at least one node.

11.   (currently amended) The method defined in claim 8 wherein said network elements nodes are selected from the group consisting of routers, switches, bridges, routers switches and bridges and firewall devices.

12.   (currently amended) The method defined in claim 8 wherein said network elements nodes are selected from the group consisting of application-level elements

~~such as~~ servers, hosts, and layer 4-7 switches.

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